Ray Rinaldi

Carbondale Area Journal

Whether we like it or not, the U.S. Postal Service is going to construct a new postal facility over on Dundaff Street, at a cost of approximately $415,000 to $470,000.

The subject of a new postal building was first raised a year ago and in that year's time I haven't heard a single favorable comment about the new building.

Why move the facility from its present, almost perfect, downtown location to the heavily traveled (vehicle) Dundaff Street area? Who knows how they think in Washington.

I'm willing to bet it would take considerably less money to modernize the present building, complete with a parking lot. I'm also willing to bet that if the U.S. Postal Service wasn't subsidized by the government, (you and me), and was in the private business sector, it wouldn't even be thinking about spending almost a half-million dollars for a new building.

Six weeks prior to every election our representatives in Congress come home to "find out what my constituents want me to do." Obviously, they have trouble hearing when it comes to listening to the residents in Carbondale.

The new postal facility is going to be built. That's written in concrete. I guess we ought to be thankful for small favors. A year ago when postal representatives were in the area looking over possible sites for the new facility, one of the sites they looked at, and I understand were favorable to, was on the top of Canaan Street.

At last Monday's council meeting the city was informed of the Postal Service's decision and given an opportunity to purchase the "old" building.

I wonder if that building wouldn't make an excellent City Hall. Maybe the present structure could be sold to a private business group and turned into a museum-office building.

Just thinking out loud.